



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

U.S. PATENT APPLICATION SERIAL NO. 10/688,365
FILING DATE 17 October 2003
INVENTOR Andrew Thomas Forsberg
ASSIGNEE St. Jude Medical Puerto Rico B.V.
GROUP ART UNIT 3764
EXAMINER Unknown
ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NO. 47563.0013
TITLE "Automatic Suture Locking Device"

TRANSMITTAL LETTER AND CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

To: Mail Stop DD
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450


From: L. Grant Foster
HOLLAND & HART LLP
555 - 17th Street, Suite 3200
P.O. Box 8749
Denver, Colorado 80201
Telephone: (801) 595-7830
Facsimile: (801) 364-9124

Enclosed are the items listed below submitted regarding the matter identified above:

1. Transmittal Letter with Certificate of Mailing included
2. PTO Return Postcard Receipt
3. Information Disclosure Statement
4. Form PTO-1449 (3 Sheets)
5. Copy of Cited References

Deposit Account Authorization - The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any applicable fees to Deposit Account No. 0842623.

Date: 13 APRIL 2004

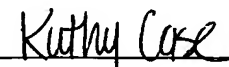
By: 
L. Grant Foster
Reg. No. 33,236

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify the items listed above as enclosed are being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as either first class mail or Express Mail, if the blank for Express Mail No. is completed below, in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop DD, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the below indicated date.

Express Mail No. _____

Date: 13 April 2004

Signature: 
Name: Kathy Case



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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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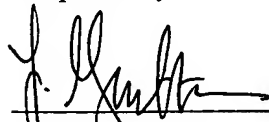
The citations listed on attached PTO Form 1449 may be material to the examination of the subject application. Applicant submits copies of these references in compliance with the duty of disclosure defined in 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97-1.99. The Examiner is requested to review and make these references of record in the above-referenced application.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists. Further, this submission does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and Applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art," Applicant reserves the right to present the relevant facts and law regarding such documents. Applicant reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

Applicant respectfully requests expeditious examination and a favorable action on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 13 APRIL 2004

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. Grant Foster', written over a horizontal line.

L. Grant Foster
Reg. No. 33,236

Form PTO-1449

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY. DOCKET NO. 47563.0013

SERIAL NO. 10/688,365

LIST OF ART CITED BY APPLICANT
(Use several sheets if necessary)

APPLICANT: St. Jude Medical Puerto Rico, B.V.

FILING DATE: 17 October 2003

GROUP: 3764

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	AA	5,782,861	07-21-98	Cragg, Andrew H. et al.	606/216	606/215	12-23-96
	AB	5,766,183	06-16-98	Sauer, Jude S.	606/139	606/144	10-21-96
	AC	5,681,334	10-28-97	Evans, Douglas et al.	606/148	606/213	03-07-96
	AD	5,662,681	09-02-97	Nash, John E. et al.	606/213	604/285	04-23-96
	AE	5,645,566	07-08-97	Brenneman Rodney et al.	606/213	606/151	09-15-95
	AF	5,613,974	03-25-97	Andreas, Bernard H. et al.	606/144	606/139	06-01-94
	AG	5,527,322	06-18-96	Klein, Enrique J. et al.	606/144	606/139	11-08-93
	AH	5,417,699	05-23-95	Klein, Enrique J. et al.	606/144	606/139	12-10-92
	AI	5,411,520	05-02-95	Nash, John et al.	606/213	606/151	02-03-93
	AJ	5,405,354	04-11-95	Sarrett, David L.	606/148	606/139	08-06-93
	AK	5,242,456	09-07-93	Nash, John et al.	606/142	606/139	06-10-92

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
	AL							
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OTHER PRIOR ART (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Form PTO-1449		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY. DOCKET NO. 47563.0013	SERIAL NO. 10/688,365
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				FILING DATE: 17 October 2003	GROUP: 3764

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate	
AA	5,476,469	12-19-95	Hathaway, David A. et al.	606/144	606/148	02-09-94	
AB	5,860,990	01-19-99	Nobles, Anthony A.	606/144	606/139	08-23-96	
AC	6,179,863	01-30-01	Kensey, Kenneth et al.	606/215		04-19-99	
AD	6,190,400	02-20-01	Muijs Van De Moer, Wouter Matthijs et al.	606/213	606/215	04-14-97	
AE	6,171,317	01-09-01	Jackson, Jasper et al.	606/148	606/114	09-14-99	
AF	6,132,439	10-17-00	Kontos, Stavros	606/139	606/148	02-17-99	
AG	6,110,184	08-29-00	Waddock, Kevin S.	606/144	148/213	08-04-90	
AH	6,071,300	06-06-00	Brenneman, Rodney et al.	606/23	606/214	07-07-97	
AI	5,984,950	11-16-99	Cragg, Andrew H. et al.	606/216		07-20-98	
AJ	5,916,236	06-29-99	Muijs Van de Moer, Wouter Matthijs et al.	606/213	606/215	01-07-97	
AK	5,792,152	08-11-98	Klein, Enrique J.	606/144	606/139	04-26-96	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	AA	4,890,612	01-02-90	Kensey, Kenneth	606/213	128/325	05-16-88
	AB						
	AC						
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
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